

**Redeate Dessalegn
Bishop McDevitt High School
Grade 10
Second Place**

“Dare to Dream”

A dreamer is defined as a person who had ideas or plans that are considered impractical. Through dreaming, one can overcome many obstacles in their lives. Before any action occurs, one must first visualize it taking place. Most role models, whether they might be the president, a teacher, even a coach advises others to dream, because it is only in dreaming that a person can reach for the courage to act and it is through taught action that one can change the world. That is why Martin Luther King Jr. was a wonderful dreamer.

As a young person, I have seen dreams come true. My parents who were born, raised, and married in Ethiopia are ideal dreamers. However, their dreams were not self-centered. They dreamt of a better life, better education, and better opportunities for their eight children. Through sacrifices and many struggles, their dreams became a blissful reality.

Now at sixteen, I too have enough knowledge about life to dream as well as the privilege to pursue my dreams. Without goals or direction, it is easy to be unsuccessful in life. In today's society, you don't to be corrupt and blame it on someone else, or to waste ones precious life because of an unforeseen problem. Dreamers do not give up when the road is a little rough; they strategize to find a way out.

It does not take a specific type of person to dream. They do not have to above a certain age or wear a certain clothing brand. A dreamer does not have to come from a

(Redeate Dessalegn continued)

specific background or be the best in everything. To change the world one only needs to have the will to imagine changing things for the better and the determination to follow-through with his or her dreams.

Dreams to me are like oxygen, they give me the energy I need to do my best in my daily activities. I know that my everyday action contribute to the larger dream of Martin Luther King Jr., a just world built on peace and love instead of war and segregation.

These dreams I speak about are not dreams of wealth or power. I do not believe in excessive materialism is ethical, when people around the world cannot afford a daily meal. I dream of continuing Martin Luther King's great effort to create a better world by bringing happiness to everyone, through acts of kindness. Like Dr. King, I believe in social equality. Thus, I dream of becoming a lawyer not searching for money, but seeking to bring justice. I look forward defending others who are powerless to do so themselves. I dream of educating myself to the highest-level possible, not to brag about my achievements, but to serve others using my knowledge. Most of all, I dream of making all my dreams a reality.